

STATE SENATOR • MARTHA G. SCOTT • 2ND DISTRICT

Scott Press Release

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Scott & Gaffney Hold Open Forum on Accretion Problems Along Shoreline

LANSING—State Senator Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park), along with State Representative Ed Gaffney (R-Grosse Pointe Farms), held an Open Forum last evening in Grosse Pointe Farms to address the concerns of homeowners, environmentalists and local officials with accretion along the shoreline. The meeting was held at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, with nearly 100 people in attendance. Joe Weaver, Grosse Pointe Shores resident and former TV 2 Editorial Director served as Moderator.

“I wholeheartedly believe that the best way to resolve the important issues in our community is to bring all sides to the table,” said Scott. “People need to know that their elected officials in Lansing are accessible and eager to assist in identifying solutions.” Scott and Gaffney were joined by officials from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), including the Office of the Great Lakes.

After hearing from several homeowners who wanted the ability to dredge and haul away accretion from their lakeshore property, Scott soon learned from local officials and the DEQ that this was a complex issue, involving both state and federal regulators. Even if approval is granted to dredge accretion from areas along the shoreline that have accumulated large deposits of silt and sand, finding the estimated \$7 million to complete the dredging project is a problem. All the while, homeowners remain concerned about the property values of their lakeshore homes.

“The open forum was a great way to highlight the issues and shed some light on what we are facing,” said Scott. “We have a lot of work ahead of us as we continue to find viable solutions. I remain committed to finding a workable resolution to this issue.”

As a next step, Sen. Scott plans to hold a meeting in Lansing with local officials and staff from DEQ.

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